

ABSTRACT

A method of providing flow control feedback about a contention point such as a queuing point to a source of a multicast ATM virtual connection. The method includes (1) identifying a slowest output stream of the multicast connection at the contention point; (2) executing an explicit rate (ER) calculation only with respect to accounting characteristics of the slowest output stream at the contention point; and (3) signaling a result of the slowest stream ER calculation back to the source, preferably by updating resource management (RM) cells flowing towards the source.